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"Violent extremism undermines our collective efforts towards maintaining peace and security, fostering sustainable development, protecting human rights, promoting the rule of law and taking humanitarian action."

Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, United Nations General Assembly, 24 December 2015

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Maldives Initiates Formulation of P/CVE National Action Plan



Islamic University of Maldives introduces innovative approach in CVE

MALDIVES INITIATES FORMULATION OF P/CVE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

07 May 2018, Monday

NCTC, in collaboration with UNDP has initiated the formulation of the National Action Plan on P/CVE. Minister of Defence and National Security Hon. Adam Shareef Umar inaugurated the formulation of the National Action Plan on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism at a meeting of the Counter Radicalization Committee. The committee meeting was held at the Conference Hall of MNDF Coast Guard.



In his opening remarks, Defence Minister Adam Shareef thanked the members of the Counter

assist in formulating the National Action Plan. He also emphasized the

the initiative by NCTC and expects additional meetings to validate and finalize the action plan before implementation. He also stressed on the importance of reducing redundancy and duplication and incorporating measures of success in the activities and design of the National Action Plan.



“If we fail to implement the National Action Plan, then we fail our future generations”

- Defence Minister, at the Inauguration of P/CVE National Action Plan Formulation

Radicalization Committee and their ministries and agencies for the contribution and participation in the P/CVE efforts. Minister Hon. Adam Shareef also expressed his gratitude to UNDP for their extensive support to the Maldives P/CVE efforts, and for facilitating expert consultancy to

need for such a National Action Plan and urged the ministries and agencies to contribute their resources and capacity. Minister Hon. Adam Shareef stated that His Excellency President Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom has directed that the P/CVE and CT efforts in the Maldives must be in line with UN’s efforts and UN Secretary General’s Plan of Action, and that Maldives has been working very diligently to tackle the issue of violent extremism.

Minister Hon. Adam Shareef also stressed that the Counter Radicalization Committee welcomes



In addition to Minister Adam Shareef, UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Shoko Noda and the UN Regional Advisor (Governance and Peacebuilding) Mr. Simon Finley, who is consultant on the NAP project spoke at the meeting. This was followed by interactions from the members of the CR Committee.



FORMULATION OF NATIONAL ACTION PLAN TO PREVENT AND COUNTER VIOLENT EXTREMISM

OPENING REMARKS BY SHOKO NODA, UNDP

07 May 2018, Monday

“It is my pleasure to join you today at this important meeting.

Let me begin by thanking all of you for being here today. Your presence here today, shows your strong commitment towards national cooperation in addressing this important issue of radicalization and violent extremism in the Maldives.

The Maldives is known for its beauty, serenity and peace, in reference to not only its natural beauty, but the kindness and peaceful nature of its people.

“

Tolerance and respect are fundamental aspects of the Maldivian identity, and I am hopeful that the work we are beginning today will only help to consolidate it further. ”

Today however, we are reckoned with a hard to believe reality: that a small faction within our peaceful community is diverging from peace, tolerance and respect that we took pride in.

Tolerance and respect are fundamental aspects of the Maldivian identity, and I am hopeful that the work we are beginning today will only help to consolidate it further. I am optimistic that this consultation will help us to fast track our work towards increasing peace and tolerance in the Maldives.

Intolerant views allow a person to entertain violent thoughts, and this is where violent extremist thought begins. Violent extremism can obliterate painstaking efforts to promote development and to foster economic opportunities, access to civil and human rights



The UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative to the Maldives, Ms. Shoko Noda

Violent extremism kills. It takes lives, and it kills hope.

Intolerance is however a learned attribute. There are reasons why people become intolerant. We have to find those reasons, and stop it before it begets violence.

In order to successfully prevent violent extremism in our country, we must work together ;

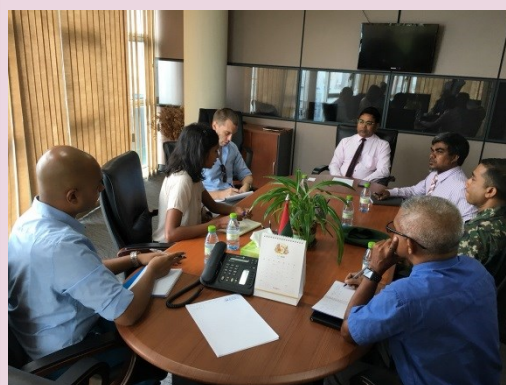
- **To strengthen interagency cohesion and collaboration**
- **To strengthen national instruments for preventing violent extremism**
- **To formulate the National Action Plan to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism.**

We at the UNDP stand ever ready and willing to support these efforts, and we believe that this mission will prove useful in strengthening the cooperation among national actors.

I would like to applaud the tremendous work that NCTC has been doing on this front since its establishment. I count on all the members of this Committee to take this forward.

I thank all national actors for participating in this convention, and by doing so, showing your commitment towards building a more peaceful and tolerant prospect for our country's future.

BILATERAL MEETINGS HELD TO FORMULATE P/CVE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN



Details of Meetings: (from the top)

Ministry of Education, Maldives
Correctional Service, Maldives Police Service and Ministry of Home Affairs

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF MALDIVES INTRODUCES AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO COUNTER EXTREMIST NARRATIVES

12 May 2018, Saturday

Islamic University of Maldives (IUM) introduces an innovative approach to counter extremist narratives through the "Taboo - Dialogue with the youth" program. The program was inaugurated by the Minister of Gender & Family Hon. Aminath Zenysha Shaheed Zaki in a special function held at the IUM.

"Taboo" programme aims to enable critical and constructive discussions on sensitive issues faced by today's youth, such as the issue of radicalization and recruitment of youth for violent activities, from contemporary, scientific and Islamic perspectives. The IUM aims to conduct sessions of this program every 2 months targeting youth of the 18-25 age group.



♦ Minister of Gender & Family delivers the opening remarks

The topic covered in the first session was on "Depression". Dr. Arif Mohamed (Consultant Psychiatrist at Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital) covered the topic from a scientific perspective. The segment "depression

Aminath Shiura and Ms. Shiyama Anwar respectively. The programme concluded with an interactive questions and answers session.

National Counter Terrorism Centre signed an MOU with the



Taboo program is the first of its kind in the Maldives to address the issues faced by the youth that are deemed too sensitive for open discussion. The format of the session contains a segment on the background of the topic through video presentations, statistics and science.

from an Islamic perspective - Stories from Quran and Hadhith" was conducted by Dr. Ibrahim Zakariyya Moosa (Dean of Postgraduate Studies, IUM). The session to share the personal experiences of depression and exercises on relaxation were conducted by Ms.

Islamic University of Maldives earlier this year to collaborate on activities to counter radicalism and foster peace and harmony. The "Taboo" program is one of the programs that IUM have planned for the academic year 2018 to Counter Violence Extremism.

NEWLY APPOINTED US COUNTERTERRORISM COORDINATOR FOR THE SOUTH & CENTRAL ASIA CALLS ON DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NCTC

13 May 2018, Sunday

The Newly appointed US counterterrorism Coordinator for the South & Central Asia, Mr. Christopher Jester calls on Director General of NCTC Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor. Mr. Christopher Jester is based in the US embassy at New Delhi.

During the meeting, NCTC provided a presentation on the role of National Counter Terrorism Centre and Maldives' approach to counter terrorism and violent extremism. Furthermore, during the meeting Director General of National Counter Terrorism Centre and the US counterterrorism Coordinator discussed areas of mutual interest and specific areas for mutual cooperation.

In this meeting a delegation of US Embassy comprising of members from the political office, office of public diplomacy and two members of USAID participated.



DG CONDUCTS A SECURITY AWARENESS SESSION TO THE NEWLY INDUCTED SECURITY OFFICERS OF AVSEC COMMAND



Director General of NCTC, Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor conducts a session for the newly inducted security officers of the Aviation Security Command.

Aim of the session was to instill a sense of patriotism amongst the newly inducted security officers.

In his lecture, Director General Brigadier Zakariyya Mansoor stressed on the importance of strengthening a sense of patriotism in aviation security officers as their role in national security is crucial. Furthermore, the DG explained various threats to the aviation industry and aviation security officers' role in mitigating these threats.

The lecture was conducted at Aviation Security Command's training center in Hulhule'.

YOUTH LEADERS NETWORK CONDUCTS “YOUTH LEADERS’ FORUM” IN LAAMU GAN

04 May 2018, Friday



Youth Leaders Network (YLN) conducts “Youth Leaders Workshop,” in Laamu Gan, aimed for students of Grade 11 and 12 as well as students of colleges and universities. The workshop was held on May 4 and 5, at Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani School. Over 60 participants from colleges and university campuses in Laamu atoll participated in the workshop.

conducted by facilitators from Maldives National University, Dhivehi Bahuge Academy and the Ministry of Home Affairs. NCTC presented on the ‘Role of Youth in Ensuring National Security,’ and the presentation highlighted the importance of youth activism and engagement in maintaining the security and peace within the society. The workshop was concluded with a final discussion on how the youth could positively contribute to the society and the nation, and how they could play more active roles in the society.

Youth Leaders Network is an affiliation of student unions of all colleges and universities in the Maldives, overseen by the Civics Department of Ministry of Home Affairs. The “Youth Leaders Workshop” is a series of workshops conducted across the Maldives. Previous iterations have been held in Gn. Fuamulaku and Hdh. Kulhudhuffushi.

Sessions in the workshop included presentations on leadership, Islamic perspectives on the role of youth and leadership, leadership lessons from the history of the Maldives and presentations on societal norms and regulations,

NCTC CONDUCTS “TERRORISM AWARENESS SESSION” FOR AVSEC

06 May 2018, Sunday



NCTC conducts a session for the participants of Aviation Security Basic Course, on terrorism, focusing on theory and practical aspects. The session was conducted by Major Ibrahim Naeem, Head of Intelligence and Analysis Department.



During the session, participants were briefed on the definition, causes & driving factors, changing dynamics of organizational structures and evolving modus operandi (Technique, tactics and procedures). Furthermore, participants discussed the nature and characteristics of threats on aviation sector. The session was conducted at AVSEC Training Centre.